

**Minutes of the Board of Regents
of the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences**

**Meeting No. 170
February 2, 2010**

The Board of Regents of the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences met on February 2, 2010, at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, 4301 Jones Bridge Road, Bethesda, Maryland. The meeting date and agenda were published in the Federal Register and each Regent was duly notified prior to the meeting. The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:30 a.m. Members and advisors listed below were in attendance:

Board Members

Ronald R. Blanck, D.O., Chair
Colleen Conway-Welch, Ph.D., M.S.N., Vice Chair
Otis W. Brawley, M.D., Member
Michael M.E. Johns, M.D., Member
Lawrence S. Lewin, Member
Kenneth P. Moritsugu, M.D., M.P.H., Member
Gail R. Wilensky, Ph.D., Member
Charles L. Rice, M.D., President, USU
Jack W. Smith, M.D., representing the Office of Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs
VADM Regina M. Benjamin, USPHS, Surgeon General of the United States
Lt Gen Charles B. Green, USAF, MC, Surgeon General, U.S. Air Force
LTG Eric B. Schoomaker, MC, USA, Surgeon General, U.S. Army
RDML William M. Roberts, MC, USN, representing the Surgeon General, U.S. Navy

Advisors to the Board

Gen Thomas R. Morgan, USMC (Ret), Military Advisor to the Board
VADM John M. Mateczun, MC, USN, Commander, Joint Task Force, National Capital Region Medical
Larry W. Laughlin, M.D., Ph.D., Dean, F. Edward Hébert School of Medicine, USU
Ada Sue Hinshaw, Ph.D., R.N., FAAN, Dean, Graduate School of Nursing, USU
COL Donald E. Hall, MSC, USA, for the Director, Armed Forces Radiobiology Research Institute
COL Norvell V. Coots, MC, USA, Commander, Walter Reed Army Health Care System
CAPT David A. Bitonti, MC, USN, representing the Commander, National Naval Medical Center
John E. Baker, J.D., General Counsel, USU

AWARD PRESENTATIONS

Dr. Blanck and Dr. Rice presented three awards. The university's Distinguished Service Medal was presented to the Honorable Vinicio E. Madrigal in recognition of his service as a member of the Board of Regents from August 2002 to November 2009.

The Honorable Lawrence C. Mohr, Jr., was awarded the Distinguished Service Medal for his many contributions to the Board of Regents. Dr. Mohr served as a member of the Board from May 2003 to November 2009.

The Distinguished Service Medal was also presented to Ms. Ellen P. Embrey in recognition of her contributions to the university. Ms. Embrey was a member of the Board of Regents from April 2009 to February 2010 while performing the duties of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs.

OPENING COMMENTS

Following the introduction of COL Robert Thompson, MSC, USA, who is currently Acting Executive Secretary to the Board of Regents, Dr. Blanck summarized the November 2009 Board of Regents Off-site and reviewed the following suggestions made there:

- Include a discussion of the university's mission and vision at each meeting
- Establish a governance committee for items such as amending the bylaws, upcoming Board appointments or administrative assessments
- Schedule occasional presentations from the field, such as humanitarian assistance programs or projects

MATTERS OF GENERAL CONSENT

Dr. Blanck presented the matters of general consent listed below:

- Meeting dates for the coming year, noting that the university's 2010 commencement exercises occur May 15, immediately following the May 13-14 Spring Board Meeting
- Minutes of the November 5, 2009, Board of Regents Meeting
- Electronic approval by the Board in January 2010 of the Distinguished Service Medal to Ms. Ellen P. Embrey, Performing the Duties of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Board

Voted by voice vote: To approve the matters of general consent as presented.

BOARD ACTIONS

Degree Granting – Graduate Education

Dr. Metcalf presented for certification three candidates to receive the degree of Doctor of Philosophy, two candidates to receive the degree of Master of Science and one candidate to receive the degree of Master of Military Medical History.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Board

Voted by voice vote: To concur with the recommendations as presented by Dr. Metcalf and to recommend that the President confer the degrees as stated.

Faculty Appointments and Promotions – School of Medicine

Dr. Laughlin presented the recommendations made by the School of Medicine Committee of Appointments, Promotion and Tenure at a meeting on December 10, 2009. Eleven individuals were recommended for faculty appointments, promotions or tenure.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Board

Voted by voice vote: To approve the recommendations of the committee as presented by Dr. Laughlin and to recommend that the President implement the actions as stated.

Awards and Honors

Dr. Grunberg presented the Faculty Senate's nomination for the Carol J. Johns, M.D. Medal for Outstanding USUHS Faculty Member. The senate requests approval of Col Paul A. Hemmer, M.D., MPH, Professor of Medicine.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Board

Voted by voice vote: To approve the nomination as presented by Dr. Grunberg.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Rice began his report with recent or imminent personnel changes at the university. In addition to his Board duties, COL Robert Thompson is Chief of Staff in the Office of the President. BG William Bester, USA (Ret.), Vice President for Distributed Learning and Acting Vice President for External Affairs, has been detailed to the Pentagon, and COL John Wempe, MC, USA, Brigade Commander, will be leaving USU February 25, 2010. Other items in the President's Report included the following:

- Visits to U.S. Africa Command, U.S. European Command and the Air Force Special Operations Command included productive discussions concerning interactions with the university.
- The panel appointed by Secretary Gates to investigate the Fort Hood shooting has completed its review and an additional report by the Secretary of the Army will be submitted in mid-February. The university's request to review its own academic processes and procedures is still pending in the office of the Secretary of Defense.
- A report by Dr. Laughlin on USU's involvement following the devastating earthquake in Haiti. The Graduate School of Nursing and the School of Medicine are involved in both humanitarian assistance efforts and in gathering information for the education of students and faculty. Ensuing discussion included the following points:
 - The U.S. Southern Command, the State Department and the U.S. Agency for International Development coordinated military and civilian disaster relief with the government of Haiti.
 - The hospital ship USNS *Comfort* was fully outfitted and staffed and under way in less than 80 hours.
 - As military medical staff left the National Capital Area to assist in Haiti, a well-coordinated "surge plan" among the Services ensured the continuity of patient care, training programs and graduate medical education in the area.
- An off-site for the university leadership was held in January 2010. The meeting's primary purpose was to review USU's strategic initiatives as the university prepares to submit its 2012 Program Objectives Memorandum to the Department of Defense.
- The establishment of a dual degree oral and maxillo-facial surgery program under the auspices of the School of Medicine is being explored in response to a request from the Services. MG Patrick Sculley, DC, USA (Ret.), Senior Vice President for University Programs (Southern Region), described the program in which dental officers would enter medical school and undertake a six-year program of instruction. Graduates would receive an M.D. degree and a Certificate in Oral and Maxillo-facial Surgery. Advantages to the dual degree program include enhanced retention and increased access to plastics fellowships.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

Academics Committee

Dr. Johns summarized the reports heard by the Academics Committee:

- Dr. Laughlin's report focused on curriculum reform.
 - Dr. Alison O'Brien, Chair, Microbiology and Immunology, and Dr. Louis Pangaro, Chair, Medicine, are providing faculty leadership.
 - Implementation of the new curricular structure is scheduled for August 2011.
 - In response to an accreditation question from the Board, Dr. Laughlin said the process is not changing the elements a physician needs to know but rather rearranging the elements to enhance students' learning.
 - The importance of involving the Surgeons General in the reform process was discussed. Emphasis was placed upon the involvement being a formal process routed through each Surgeon General's office.
- Dr. Hinshaw's report brought the committee up to date regarding the following:
 - Current faculty searches, including that of an Assistant Dean for Faculty Affairs
 - Progress in addressing each of the items noted by the Ph.D. Program Review Team in its January 2009 review of USU's Ph.D. in Nursing Science Program
 - The status of plans for implementing the Doctor of Nursing Practice Program, which is an impending mandate from nurse education accrediting bodies
- The report from the Faculty Senate emphasized continuing efforts to improve communication with onsite and offsite faculty as well as with the university administration. Current concerns include unfilled department chairs and the felt need for faculty input into administrative reviews and strategic plans.
- Col Reamy summarized the work undertaken by the Task Force on the Clinical Faculty. Suggested improvements to the current system include changes to allow increased flexibility in the appointment and promotion of clinical faculty and improved communication with the entire faculty about the processes involved.

Discussion during the Academics Committee Report emphasized the current team approach to patient care and the important role the university could play in exploring this concept. The team approach involves physicians, nurses, physician assistants and medics. LTG Schoomaker said that all the Services are involved in redesigning primary care through the "medical home" concept.

Finance and Administration Committee

Dr. Brawley reviewed the five presentations heard by the committee:

- Mr. Parker reported on the university's conversion from the College and University Financial System to the Defense Agencies Initiative (DAI).
 - The conversion is expected to be completed by October 2010.
 - USU will be the first medical DOD agency to use DAI.
 - Reasons for the change include improved security features and enhanced reporting capabilities.
- Ms. Whitmeyer presented the issues being developed for submission of USU's 2012 Program Objectives Memorandum (POM) to the Department. The 2012 POM is the financial planning process used to prioritize and fund large projects from FY 2012 – FY 2017.

- The focus of Mr. Tinling's report was the university's Operation and Maintenance Budget for FY 2010. The starting position figure for this budget was \$123,271,000.
- The report from the USU Brigade emphasized the significant turnover in 2010 of personnel in the Office of the Brigade Commander. LTC Kandace Wolf, AN, USA, will serve as interim commander following COL Wempe's departure. LTC Wolf, Commandant/Assistant Dean for Student Affairs, Graduate School of Nursing, said the office is working on actions to ease these transitions.
- Mr. Lowe reported that the Henry M. Jackson Foundation for the Advancement of Military Medicine has been directed to change the way indirect costs are calculated. The foundation is working to minimize the impact of this change on research programs currently receiving support.

Development and External Affairs Committee

Dr. Moritsugu highlighted the following points from the Office of External Affairs brief:

- Sixteen USU graduates have been selected for flag rank to date.
- In recent selections for promotion to Colonel, Medical Corps, USA, university graduates were well represented. Of the USU alumni considered for promotion, 84 percent were selected; of the non-USU alumni considered, 51 percent were selected.
- Web site improvements are completed for the Graduate School of Nursing and are in progress for the School of Medicine.
- The office has completed a strategic communications plan to support the university. The plan contains specific goals to increase the visibility of USU locally, regionally and nationally.

Ms. Cynthia Gilman, Vice President of the Center for Public-Private Partnerships, Henry M. Jackson Foundation, presented an overview of the November 6-7, 2009, medical symposium and gala which was co-sponsored by the Henry M. Jackson Foundation for the Advancement of Military Medicine and the Tug McGraw Foundation. A primary purpose of both events was to increase public awareness of the importance of military medicine, including its relationship to civilian medicine.

PRESENTATION: NATIONAL CAPITAL AREA MEDICAL SIMULATION CENTER

Following a break, the Board reconvened at the university's National Capital Area Medical Simulation Center located at 2460 Linden Lane, Silver Spring, Maryland. Dr. Lopreiato presented an overview of the center and its capabilities:

- The center contains some of the most advanced medical simulation technology in the world.
- The clinical skills laboratory contains examination rooms where standardized patients (played by actors) allow students to practice their physical examination and diagnostic skills.
- The surgical laboratory includes a virtual reality room as well as an operating room. The virtual reality room contains computerized training aids that allow students to practice specific techniques and procedures. The operating room contains computerized mannequins which provide realistic training situations.

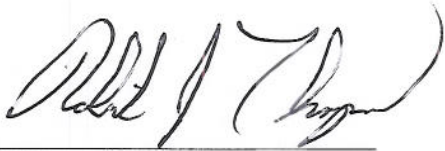
- The Wide Area Virtual Environment (WAVE) enables teams of students to take part in simulated combat situations and other medical training scenarios involving mass casualties.
- By graduation, each USU student has participated in about 40 different simulations.

Following the director's remarks, Board members toured the center's Clinical Skills Teaching Laboratory, Surgical Simulation Laboratory, and the WAVE.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Dr. Blanck adjourned the meeting at 12:15 p.m.

SUBMITTED:



COL Robert J. Thompson, MSC, USA
Acting Executive Secretary, Board of Regents

APPROVED:



Ronald R. Blanck
Chair, Board of Regents

Prepared by Janet S. Taylor